

Department of the Army

Corps of Engineers

South Pacific Division

Status Report

Of

Brigadier General Robert L. Davis

Commander, South Pacific Division

Before The

Subcommittee On Energy And Water Development

Committee On Appropriations

United States House of Representatives

On The

Civil Works Activities

In The South Pacific Division

Fiscal Year 2004

March 26, 2003

INTRODUCTION

Mr. Chairman, I am Brigadier General Larry Davis and I am pleased to provide this status report on the Civil Works activities of the South Pacific Division and our contributions to the economy, environment and national security.

Regional Overview:

South Pacific Division encompasses one-fifth of the contiguous 48 states. Established in 1888, it is one of the Corps' eight Regional Business Centers nationwide. Operating Districts are headquartered in Albuquerque, New Mexico and Los Angeles, Sacramento, and San Francisco, California.

The region encompasses more than one-seventh of the U.S. population and four of the ten fastest growing states. It is home to 172 Native American Nations and over 390 endangered species.

We support economically viable and environmentally sustainable navigation, flood protection, watershed management and water resources development in California, Arizona, Nevada, Utah and New Mexico. We are also responsible for parts of Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado and Texas. Our structured analysis of costs and benefits ensures that taxpayers and local project sponsors get a sound return on investment.

As a military officer I am enormously proud of the Corps' civil works employees who are currently embedded with U.S. troops in the Middle East--playing a vital role in supporting the war with Iraq and the global war on terrorism. Their expertise in engineering, the environment, real estate acquisition, contract management and construction are integral to the planning and execution of military operations across the globe.

Tele-engineering technology improves our global reach, letting engineers who are deployed with the troops reach back via satellite to experts at home for additional advice and expertise, as they need it. This reduces the number of people we send forward, making us better able to support military operations while keeping on top of important civil works projects and infrastructure protection at home.

Fiscal Year 2002 Achievements

Last fiscal year, we completed 15 reconnaissance studies and 2 feasibility studies. We also completed construction of 4 projects in California; Los Angeles County Drainage Area Project, West Sacramento Flood Control Project, Santa Paula Creek, and Surfside-Sunset and Newport Beach (Orange County) Stage 11 and the Los Cruces Project in New Mexico.

Fiscal Year 2003 Program

This year we will complete 8 reconnaissance reports and 5 feasibility studies. We will also complete 3 construction projects in California; Lower Sacramento Area Levee Reconstruction, Sacramento River Flood Control Project (Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District) and San Lorenzo River.

Fiscal Year 2004 Budget

The President's budget includes \$235.5 million to continue work on over 150 projects and studies throughout our region. We will also initiate 2 ecosystem restoration studies; Canada del Oro Wash in Arizona and San Francisquito Creek in California.

General Investigations

For General Investigations, the budget proposes \$15.9 million for fiscal year 2004 for 78 studies. These funds will allow initiation of 2 reconnaissance studies, 2 feasibility studies, continuation of 68 feasibility studies and completion of 6 feasibility studies.

Construction, General

The budget includes \$115.8 million for Construction, General to continue 20 projects already underway, and to complete 2 projects in California; Kaweah River and Petaluma River.

Oakland Harbor, CA (50-ft)

The budget includes \$7 million to continue construction of the 50-foot harbor deepening project on the eastern shore of central San Francisco Bay immediately south of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, in California. The \$283.6 million project consists of deepening the 4-mile Inner Harbor and 3.4 mile Outer Harbor channels, including the respective turning basins, to 50 feet; widening of channels at various locations; and widening of the Inner and Outer turning basins. Approximately 12.8 million

cubic yards of material will be dredged from the harbor. Fiscal Year 2004 funds will be used to continue construction of Inner Harbor improvements and to continue dredging contracts.

Hamilton Airfield Wetland Restoration Project, CA

The Hamilton Airfield Wetland Restoration Project, located 4 miles east of the city of Novato, on San Pablo Bay, Marin County, California, will continue in Fiscal Year 2004 with the \$2 million included in the budget. The project includes a 988-acre parcel consisting of a former military runway. The project allows for the beneficial reuse of 10.6 million cubic yards of dredged material, including approximately 2.6 million cubic yards from the Oakland Harbor deepening project. The project promotes the long term management strategy for placement of dredged material in the San Francisco Bay region.

Napa River, CA

The budget includes \$7.5 million to continue the Napa River, California project just north of San Pablo Bay and approximately 40 miles northeast of San Francisco, California. The project consists of channel modifications to provide the area with 100-year level of flood protection from Napa River and Napa Creek.

Sacramento Area Flood Control Projects, CA

The budget also includes \$10.1 million to continue construction of 3 projects in the Sacramento Metropolitan Area, California; the American River Watershed Common Features, the Folsom Dam Modifications, and the South Sacramento County Streams. These projects will significantly improve flood protection for California's highly urbanized capitol city and metropolitan area.

Santa Ana River Mainstem, CA

The \$1.49 billion Santa Ana River Mainstem construction project continues in Fiscal Year 2004. The budget includes \$15.7 million to continue construction on two reaches of the mainstem of the river and embankment and outlet improvements for the Prado Dam feature. Upon completion, the project will provide a 190-year level of flood protection downstream of Prado Dam primarily in Orange County, California.

Tropicana and Flamingo Washes, NV

We continue to make good progress on flood reduction improvements for the city of Las Vegas, Nevada. The project area is located west of and

through the urbanized Las Vegas area along both Tropicana and Flamingo Washes in Clark County in southern Nevada. The fiscal year 2004 budget includes \$23.3 million to continue construction.

Acequias Irrigation System, NM

The budget includes \$1.8 million to continue construction of the Acequias Irrigation System project in New Mexico. These funds will be used to continue protection and restoration of river diversions and associated canals of community Acequia systems. These systems are primarily located in north-central New Mexico in the counties of Mora, Rio Arriba, Santa Fe, San Miguel and Taos.

Rio Salado, Phoenix and Tempe Reaches, AZ

The budget includes \$11.6 million to continue the \$100.9 million Rio Salado project in Arizona. The Phoenix reach consists of the establishment of riparian and sonoran desert habitat restoration, acceptable surface and groundwater quality improvements, and incidental recreational opportunities. Fiscal Year 2004 funds will be used to continue improvements on both reaches.

Operations and Maintenance

The budget includes \$103.8 million for the continued operation and maintenance of 16 navigation and 29 flood control projects. The O&M, General program also includes funds for security protection measures at those dams determined to be critical infrastructure. The amount is considered adequate to continue to provide for operations and maintenance needs within our region. We are carefully reviewing the requirements of our projects that have deferred maintenance and will recommend accomplishing this work, as funds become available.

Conclusion

Mr. Chairman, the Civil Works Program of the South Pacific Division is diverse, vibrant, and responsive to the needs of the people of our region. I stand ready to answer any questions you might have.
